



SPARLING METER COMPANY

INCORPORATED

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EL MONTE, CALIFORNIA
225 NORTH TEMPLE CITY BLVD.

February 23, 1956

Mr. Francis T. Mayo
Senior Ground Water Engineer
Office of State Engineers
Utah State Capitol Building
Salt Lake City, Utah



Dear Sir:

At the request of Mr. Howard Frandsen of Waterworks Equipment Company, we are happy to relate our experience regarding the current laws covering accurate measurement of ground water withdrawals from underground basins.

We have been faced with this situation to the greatest degree in one particular area here in Southern California. At present, there is a California State Law that covers all wells in Orange County with pumps having a discharge size of two inches or larger. This law states that the quantity of water pumped be measured with an approved integrating meter. The purpose of the Orange County meter law is briefly this; Colorado River water is purchased wholesale by the Orange County Water District from the Metropolitan Water District of Los Angeles and then percolated by means of recharge basins back into the ground. The cost of this water is borne by the Users on a quantity use basis. The individual keeps his own meter readings and turns this information into the Orange County Water District at the end of a year in order to establish his share of the cost (very much like Income Tax). Stiff penalties in the way of fines and/or imprisonment can be levied if willful fraud or misrepresentation is detected by the Orange County Water District auditors. On the form provided the User, asking for total yearly water use as expressed in Acre Feet, is a line inquiring the method of measurement.

There is another law covering the five remaining Southern California counties that also calls for accurate measurement of all wells, by an approved type meter, but here, it is not mandatory, merely suggestive. The basis is one of establishing water rights in that there is considerable litigation pending in these areas. In their brochure, the State of California Division of Water Resources has recommended the use of our meter, but, as before stated, has not ordered their use.

The State Engineers Office of Santa Fe, New Mexico is also vitally interested in this same type legislation to cover the Roswell, Carlsbad and Pecos Valley Districts and while legislation has been enacted here, it has not as yet been actively enforced. They do indicate, however, enforcement is imminent and would involve around 1600 meters.

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F.T.M.

Mr. Francis T. Mayo
Salt Lake City, Utah
February 23, 1956

The metering equipment we are furnishing the Orange County farmers, most of the well owners in the five additional Southern California counties, as well as what we propose to furnish the State of New Mexico Users, consists mainly of the Sparling-Masterflo Low Pressure Line Meter as illustrated and described on Data Sheet 1307, enclosed, and the Sparling-Masterflo Irrimeter as illustrated and described on Data Sheet 402, enclosed.

Please note the Irrimeter is suitable for vertical mounting usually inside a standpipe. It can be most helpful on existing installations where location difficulties arise due to short distances of discharge pipe from the pump to the standpipe with not enough space available for the line meter. The Irrimeter may be located in the vertical line inside the standpipe itself, grouted into an elbow from the pump discharge line.

We are enclosing Price Lists covering both the Low Pressure Line Meter and the Irrimeter. While it may be seen that the first cost is considerably less on the Irrimeter, the Low Pressure Line Meter is simpler to install therefore, the overall cost on either type is about the same.

The writer anticipates a trip to your region in the very near future and would be only too happy to amplify on this information. If in the meantime, additional information is required, feel free to contact us as we are here to be of service.

Very truly yours,

SPARLING METER COMPANY

By


John L. Mapes
Regional Sales Manager

JLM:br
Enclosures